AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claims 1, 18, 26, 38, 39, and 40 as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A flocked transfer ~~consisting essentially of~~ comprising:

a release sheet[[,]];

a release agent on the release sheet[[,]]; ~~and~~

flock on the release agent; the flock being formed in a desired pattern on the release sheet[[;]], the release agent holding the flock to the release sheet[[,]];

~~wherein the transfer is adhered to a substrate, wherein the substrate is applied using~~

a pre-formed, solid, continuous, and self-supporting thermoplastic hot melt sheet;

wherein at least substantially all of the flock contacts the thermoplastic hot melt sheet;[[,]]

and wherein there is no binder adhesive positioned between the thermoplastic hot melt sheet and the flock.

2. (Previously Presented) The flocked transfer of Claim 1, wherein the thermoplastic hot melt sheet is a thermoplastic blank or thermoplastic blank film.

3-15 (Canceled).

16. (Previously Presented) The flocked transfer of Claim 1, wherein the release agent and release sheet are located on a first surface of the flock and the thermoplastic hot melt sheet is positioned on a second surface of the flock and the first and second surfaces are in an opposing relationship.

17. (Previously Presented) The flocked transfer of Claim 1, wherein the thermoplastic hot melt sheet comprises polyurethane.

18. (Currently Amended) The flocked transfer of Claim 1, wherein the hot melt sheet is ~~a performed film and is~~ cut, before application to the flocked transfer, to correspond to a shape of the flocked transfer.

19. (Previously Presented) The flocked transfer of Claim 1, wherein the thermoplastic hot melt sheet comprises at least first and second parts, the first and second parts having differing properties.

20. (Previously Presented) The flocked transfer of Claim 19, wherein the first and second parts have differing melting temperatures.

21. (Previously Presented) The flocked transfer of Claim 19, wherein the first part contacts the flock and is located between the second part and the flock and wherein the first part has a higher melting temperature than the second part.

22. (Previously Presented) The flocked transfer of Claim 19, wherein the first and second parts have differing viscosities when the first and second parts are melted.

23. (Previously Presented) The flocked transfer of Claim 19, wherein the first part contacts the flock and is located between the second part and the flock and wherein, when the first and second parts are melted, the first part has a higher viscosity than the second part.

24. (Previously Presented) The flocked transfer of Claim 19, wherein the first and second parts are in the form of films and the films are laminated together.

25. (Previously Presented) The flocked transfer of Claim 1, wherein the thermoplastic hot melt sheet is preformed before application to the flock and substrate.

26. (Currently Amended) A flocked transfer comprising:

a release sheet[[,]];

a release agent on the release sheet[[, and]];

flock on the release agent; the flock being formed in a desired pattern on the release sheet; the release agent being located between the flock and release sheet and holding the flock to the release sheet, and

a pre-formed, solid, continuous, and self-supporting thermoplastic hot melt sheet engaging free ends of the flock, the flock being located between the release agent and the thermoplastic hot melt sheet, wherein at least most of a [[the]] free surface of the flock is in direct physical contact with [[a]] the thermoplastic hot melt sheet; and

wherein the thermoplastic hot melt sheet has a substantially uniform thickness and substantially flat upper and lower surfaces and wherein the flock fibers are substantially perpendicular to the upper and lower surfaces and to the release sheet

~~and wherein the flock is adhered to the hot melt sheet in the absence of a binder adhesive~~.

27. (Currently Amended) The flocked transfer of Claim 26, wherein the transfer is adhered to a substrate ~~and the substrate is applied using the thermoplastic hot melt sheet~~.

28. (Previously Presented) The flocked transfer of Claim 26, wherein the thermoplastic hot melt sheet is a thermoplastic blank or thermoplastic blank film.

29. (Previously Presented) The flocked transfer of Claim 26, wherein the flock comprises a plurality of flock fibers, wherein the release agent and release sheet are located on a first surface

of the flock, and wherein the free surface and the first surface are defined, respectively, by opposing ends of the flock fibers.

30. (Previously Presented) The flocked transfer of Claim 26, wherein the thermoplastic hot melt sheet comprises polyurethane.

31. (Previously Presented) The flocked transfer of Claim 26, wherein the hot melt sheet is cut, before application to the flocked transfer, to correspond to a shape of the flocked transfer.

32. (Previously Presented) The flocked transfer of Claim 26, wherein the thermoplastic hot melt sheet comprises at least first and second parts, the first and second parts having differing properties.

33. (Previously Presented) The flocked transfer of Claim 32, wherein the first and second parts have differing melting temperatures.

34. (Previously Presented) The flocked transfer of Claim 33, wherein the first part contacts the flock and is located between the second part and the flock and wherein the first part has a higher melting temperature than the second part.

35. (Previously Presented) The flocked transfer of Claim 32, wherein the first and second parts have differing viscosities when the first and second parts are melted.

36. (Previously Presented) The flocked transfer of Claim 35, wherein the first part contacts the flock and is located between the second part and the flock and wherein, when the first and second parts are melted, the first part has a higher viscosity than the second part.

37. (Previously Presented) The flocked transfer of Claim 32, wherein the first and second parts are laminated together.

38. (Previously Presented) The flocked transfer of Claim 26, wherein the thermoplastic hot melt sheet is a preformed film before application to the flock and substrate.

39. (Canceled).

40. (Previously Presented) The flocked transfer of Claim 26, wherein there is no binder adhesive in contact with the thermoplastic hot melt sheet.

41. (Previously Presented) The flocked transfer of Claim 26, wherein the flock comprises a plurality of flock fibers and at least most of the plurality of flock fibers are in direct contact with the hot melt sheet.

42. (Previously Presented) The flocked transfer of Claim 27, wherein the substrate comprises rubber.

43. (Previously Presented) The flocked transfer of Claim 42, wherein a fringe material extends outwardly from peripheral edges of the substrate.

44. (Previously Presented) The flocked transfer of Claim 1, wherein the substrate comprises rubber.

45. (Previously Presented) The flocked transfer of Claim 44, wherein a fringe material extends outwardly from peripheral edges of the substrate.

46. (Canceled).

47. (Canceled).

48. (Previously Presented) The flocked transfer of Claim 1, wherein the adhesive component of the hot melt sheet consists essentially of a thermoplastic hot melt material.

49. (Previously Presented) The flocked transfer of Claim 26, wherein the adhesive component of the hot melt sheet consists essentially of a thermoplastic hot melt material.

50. (New) The flocked transfer of Claim 1, wherein the thermoplastic hot melt sheet has a substantially uniform thickness and substantially flat upper and lower surfaces.

51. (New) The flocked transfer of Claim 1, wherein substantially none of the thermoplastic hot melt sheet fails to contact the free ends of the flock.

52. (New) The flocked transfer of Claim 26, wherein substantially none of the thermoplastic sheet fails to contact the free ends of the flock.

53. (New) A flocked transfer comprising:

a release sheet;

a release agent on the release sheet;

flock adhered to the release agent; the flock being formed in a desired pattern on the release sheet, the release agent holding the flock to the release sheet;

a pre-formed, solid, continuous, and self-supporting thermoplastic hot melt sheet having a length and a width, and a first side engaging free ends of the flock;

a substrate adhered to a second side of said thermoplastic hot melt sheet;

wherein at least substantially most of the flock is adhered to the thermoplastic hot melt sheet; and wherein there is no binder adhesive positioned between the flock and the substrate.

54. (New) The flocked transfer of Claim 1, wherein the thermosplastic hot melt sheet has a substantially uniform thickness and substantially flat upper and lower surfaces.